## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims as follows:



- 4. (Amended) A processor according to claim 2 [or 3], wherein the compressor comprises MOS transistors operating in weak inversion.
- 6. (Amended) A process according to [any of claims 1 to 5] <u>claim 1</u>, further comprising an amplifier for amplifying the filtered output signal of the tone control circuit.
- 7. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein the input signal is a current signal.
- 8. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, further comprising a biphase signal generator for supplying to the output a biphase signal modulated by the processed audio output signal.
- 9. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 8] <u>claim 1</u>, further comprising full-wave rectification means for full-wave rectifying the processed audio output signal.
- 12. (Amended) A processor according to claim 10 [or 11], wherein the half-wave rectification means comprises means for applying a dc offset to the filtered signals.
- 13. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 12] <u>claim 1</u>, comprising only one output.
- 14. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 12] <u>claim 1</u>, comprising a plurality of outputs for providing processed audio signals, and wherein the tone control circuit is common to all the outputs for simultaneously adjusting the itensity/frequency of the processed audio signals at the outputs.



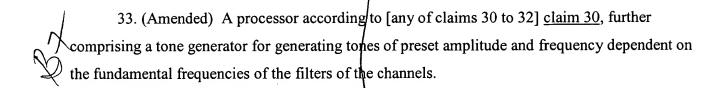
18. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 15 to 17] <u>claim 15</u>, further comprising a plurality of biphase signal generators for supplying biphase signals modulated by respective ones of the frequency-separated signals to respective ones of the outputs.



- 21. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 20] <u>claim 1</u>, where configured such that the intensity/frequency is controllable by a user.
- 24. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 21 to 23] <u>claim 21</u>, comprising a user control for controlling signal amplitude.
- 25. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 1 to 24] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the or each subtractor has a control input for controlling signal amplitude.
- 26. (Amended) A processor according to any of claims 1 to 25] <u>claim 1</u>, when implemented as a single chip analogue MOS integrated circuit.
- 27. (Amended) An aural prosthetic device comprising the processor according to [any of claims 1 to 26] claim 1.
- 28. (Amended) A hearing aid comprising the processor according to [any of claims 1 to 26] claim 1.
- 29. (Amended) A cochlear implant prosthesis comprising the processor according to [any of claims 1 to 26] claim 1.



32. (Amended) A processor according to claim 30 [or 31], wherein the adjustment means includes a control interface for allowing adjustment of the gain of each channel in response to control signals transmitted by a wireless remote control.



36. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 30 to 35] <u>claim 30</u>, where configured such that each channel is adjustable independently of all the other channels.

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37. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 30 to 36] <u>claim 30</u>, further comprising sampling means coupling the channels to the outputs.

39. (Amended) A processor according to [any of claims 30 to 38] <u>claim 30</u>, further comprising a plurality of biphase signal generators for supplying to the outputs biphase signals modulated by the output signals of the channels.

## **REMARKS**

If there are any fees due for the submission of this Second Preliminary Amendment, please charge our deposit account 03-0172.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11/9/00

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